

# Public Issues Report 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter 2009

## Public File 2009 – 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter

### News at

6:01am	7:01	8:01
6:15	7:15	8:15
6:31	7:31	8:31
6:45	7:45	8:45

### July 1

73% of American support pulling our troops out of Iraq...and it's starting to happen! The US military successfully met yesterday's deadline to withdraw from urban areas and hand over full control to Iraqi security forces. Iraqis celebrated the move, but it was bitter sweet.

According to new research, having sex seven days a week improves the quality of men's sperm thus a woman's chances of conceiving! The doctors' determination...sperm can be exposed to dangerous molecules inside men's body if left there too long! Of course the deep irony is... All the people having sex 7 days a week are definitely not trying to get pregnant.

The days of popping Vicodin and Percoset may be numbered...that's because an FDA advisory panel voted to take the prescription painkillers off the market. It's because the drugs' combo of acetaminophen and narcotics pose a high risk of overdose and severe liver damage. On that note, the panel also advised the FDA to lower the recommended maximum doses of drugs like Tylenol, Nyquil, Pamprin – which all have acetaminophen.

### July 2

The view from the top is back! The Statue of Liberty will once again allow visitors to climb to her crown. The attraction closed since 9/11, will reopen this Saturday. However, only a few visitors will be allowed at a time, in very small groups. They have to have special tickets, and will be carefully screened and escorted by park rangers.

10 people are recovering this morning after a Staten Island ferry lost power and crashed into a pier. The Coast Guard said it was like a car losing its breaks. About 750 to 800 people were on the ferry, and luckily no one was thrown overboard.

A new info on the death of Michael Jackson this morning. It just keeps getting more bizarre. The DEA is now joining the investigation, adding to speculation that Jacko's death was drug related. Also, Jackson's will is now public! Here's the kicker, if – for some reason – Michael's mother, Katherine, can't care for the kids...Diana Ross will be their legal guardian.

### July 3

The infamous "Myspace Mom" is waking up a free woman this morning. A judge overturned Lori Drew's conviction, for now. She was supposed to be sentenced yesterday on computer fraud charges after creating a fake Myspace profile to harass one of her daughter's friends, Megan Meier, who ended up killing herself. The judge says Myspace's rules are too vague... and if Drew is convicted, anyone who creates a fake profile could be guilty too.

The search continues this morning for a soldier in Afghanistan who disappeared Tuesday. Officials say he was kidnapped along with three Afghan soldiers...and sold to a clan led by a warlord. The US and other forces are quickly trying to seal off the area controlled by the warlord. There have been claims that the US soldier was drunk when he was captured, but no one can confirm it.

A public memorial for the King of Pop will be held next Tuesday at the Los Angeles Staples Center Tuesday. Jackson rehearsed at the arena the night before he died. Meanwhile, the DEA has joined the investigation into whether prescription drugs were involved in Jackson's death.

#### July 6

An Illinois taxi driver was attacked by a passenger with a knife and wound up disarming the man by spraying him with deodorant. I know. Who knew cabbies had deodorant??

And cops say former NFL quarterback Steve McNair's death is a homicide. He was found shot to death, along with his girlfriend Sahel Kazemi on Saturday. McNair was shot twice in the chest and twice in the head. Kazemi was also shot in the head...but it'll be a few days until they'll know if it was a suicide or homicide. McNair spent 13 seasons in the NFL, playing for the Oilers, Titans, and Ravens.

LAPD is working hard this morning to get the city ready for huge crowds at Michael Jackson's public memorial at the Staples center. More than 1.6 million fans registered for a random drawing of tickets to tomorrow's ceremony, 18,750 were selected. Officers are asking people without tickets to stay away...and watch the ceremony on TV.

#### July 7

Officials predict anywhere from 250,000 to 1 million people will flood Los Angeles today to pay their respects at Michael Jackson's public memorial service...and it's got police getting geared up for the huge turnout. Some 18,000 fans and friends will crowd into the Staples Center and a nearby overflow theater for the two-hour ceremony. It will be packed with celebrities too.

President Obama praised Russian Prime Minister Vladimir Putin this morning as the two met for the first time in Russia. The Prez said it's a good opportunity to smooth relations over between the two countries which have been icy for the last 7 years. Yesterday, President Obama met with Russian President Dmitry Medvedev where they made a deal to cut nuclear stockpiles.

#### July 8

President Obama and leaders from the world's top 8 industrial nations will meet today for the G8 Summit in Italy. Economic recovery will dominate the discussion during the three day talks. But global warming, boosting farm aid, reviving international trade talks, and dealing with Iran's nuclear ambitions are also on the agenda. However, noticeably absent today will be Chinese President Hu Jintao, who has decided to return to China to deal with ethnic violence that has left 156 people dead.

Friends, fans and family gathered at the Staples Center in LA for Michael Jackson's 2+ hour ceremony...while millions more watched the TV coverage or live streaming video on the web. The memorial focused on Jackson's 45-year musical career, his charity work, and his impact on the world. New in the investigation into NFL pro-bowler Steve McNair's death...A coroner says he would be quote "very surprised" if its not classified as a murder-suicide. Cops now know that McNair's girlfriend, Sahel Kazemi, bought the gun that killed her and the former Tennessee Titans quarterback. But, they're still holding back on saying Kazemi killed him because she didn't seem to have a motive.

#### July 9

About a dozen bottled water companies may have to be a little more transparent when it comes to where they get the water and how they treat it. Lawmakers learned there's nothing on the label right now listing the sources or treatment methods on bottled water. Coke and Pepsi are among the companies being asked for the info. The Feds say billions are made off bottled H2O because peeps think its better than the tap.

A study by the "American Journal of Epidemiology" on 1,355 people found that people tend to gain weight when they're stressed at work. Makes sense...but the catch is that people who are already overweight are the ones who pack on the most pounds.

Michael Jackson was the "King of Pop" in the 1980s, and now he's back on the throne! 800-thousand copies of his albums sold in the US last week. Jackson's albums dominated the top 10 rankings on "Billboards top pop catalog." His "Number Ones" collection is in first place.

#### July 10

They may be in Italy, but Africa will take center stage during the last day of the G8 Summit. President Obama and other world leaders will meet with African leaders to chat about much needed financial aid in many of its countries! Afterwards, Obama heads to the Vatican to meet with the pope, then boards a plane to Ghana for his first trip to Africa as president.

CNN says Santa Barbara County Sheriffs interviewed two of Jackson's former security guards back in 2005 as they prepped for his child molestation trial. The guards said Jackson took more than 10 Xanax pills a night, asked employees to get the prescription sleep medicine under their names and also took him 'doctor shopping' in other states to get the drugs.

Reduce your daily calorie intake by 30 percent and you can live longer. Yep it's official for us primates! A 20 year study conducted on monkeys confirms what's long been known in other species like mice, worms and flies... Less calories, more years! Now, exactly how a low calorie diet helps extend your lifespan is unknown, but researchers believe it has something to do with brain volume.

#### July 13

The launch of space shuttle Endeavor was delayed twice this weekend. The launchpas was struck by lightning causing the delay on Saturday. And bad weather scrubbed Sunday's launch. Endeavor will try again tonight.

On Saturday four US soldiers were killed in roadside bombs in Afghanistan and another one was killed Sunday by insurgents. That brings the death toll in Afghanistan to 105 this year.

And "Bruno" ist de noomber one movie in America. The "mockumentary" brought in \$30.4 million dollars. "Ice Age" and "Transformers" round out the top three.

#### July 14

More arrests are expected today in the murder of a Florida couple known for adopting special needs kids. A fourth suspect was nabbed last night. Cops say Gary Lamont Sumner was picked up on surveillance video from Wal-Mart a few days before the murders buying items used in the crimes with one of the suspects already behind bars. We'll have much more on this story coming up in about 3 minutes from now.

The World Health Organization is now saying the Swine Flu or H1N1 is "unstoppable." It gave the go-ahead to drug makers to start making vaccines. Healthcare workers will be the first to receive the shots. After that, the WHO says each country will have to figure out who gets priority.

#### July 15

Women spend up to three years of their lives getting ready to go out! What's worse, men spend almost three months waiting for them! Here's how it breaks down...Women take an average of an hour and 12 minutes getting ready, and men wait an average of 17 minutes each time.

Before the movie, "Harry Potter and the Half Blood Prince" hit theatres it had already sold out more than 2,700 screenings! The film had more than 1,500 midnight screening sellouts in the United States and finished as the number two "all-time movie" for advance ticket sales. The film finished just behind "Star Wars: Episode III: Revenge of the Sith" in advanced sales!

#### July 16

A rush hour traffic stop turned deadly last night near the US Capitol in Washington. Police say they shot and killed a 35 year old man who led them on a chase after they tried to pull him over. He hit two officers with his car in the process. Cops say they shot him after he grabbed a gun and refused their orders to drop it.

Better late than never...Space shuttle Endeavor finally blasted off from Cape Canaveral last night after 5 delays! The shuttle will deliver a package to Japan's research lab on the International space station.

One man in New Hampshire payed \$23 quadrillion for a pack of cigarettes! The man swiped his Visa debit card for the "smokes" at a gas station, then noticed the astronomical charge the next day when he

checked his bank statements online! The best part... He was also charged a 15 dollar overdraft fee. He was just one of several Visa prepaid cardholders who experienced the technical glitch!

#### July 17

So far, nine people are dead and dozens are hurt following two bombings in Indonesia. The blasts ripped through two hotels in Jakarta's business district this morning. Another bomb blew up a toll road in North Jakarta killing another two people. The coordinated attacks are the first in several years in Indonesia and some experts think they may have been suicide missions by a militant Islamic group.

The FBI says it's arrested a man they think may have killed his wife on a carnival cruise. It says the couple had been fighting in one of the cabins and when the crew responded they found Shirley McGill, dead. They eventually found her husband, Robert, wandering around the ship. Crew officials locked him up in the brig until the FBI could get there. It's handling the case because the incident happened in International waters.

President Obama has a tough love message for the African American community. He urged them to take a greater responsibility for themselves and move away from a reliance on government programs at the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the NAACP. Obama told a packed ballroom that they need to tackle the problems that affect the African American community like joblessness, health care costs, and HIV-AIDS.

#### July 20

On Saturday the Taliban released an online video showing a US soldier that had been captured weeks ago. On Sunday the Pentagon identified the soldier as Private Bowe Bergdahl.

The "most trusted man in American," Walter Cronkite, died on Friday at the age of 92. The Former CBS Evening News anchor died after a long illness with his family by his side. Funeral arrangements are set for Thursday.

"Harry Potter and the Half-Blood Prince" dominated the box office this weekend, making \$79.5 million dollars. In total, it's raked in almost \$160 million. "Ice Age 3" and "Transformers 2" round out the top three.

#### July 21

Four US troops were killed in Afghanistan on Monday from a roadside bombing. Those deaths raise the total to 30 this month – making July the deadliest month for US forces in Afghanistan since "operation enduring freedom" was launched back in October of 2001. So far, 659 US troops have died there since the war began.

At just "15 inches" a North Carolina woman takes the title of having the world's smallest waist. 70-year old Cathie Jung says she and her husband are fascinated by the "Victorian Era." She wears corsets to try and achieve a perfect hourglass figure! The only time she takes it off now is to take a shower.

We know there's an iPhone app for everything...and now for just \$2.99 you can buy the "cannabis" app. Apple just approved "cannabis"...It takes your current location and shows you the closest "legal" marijuana dealers in your area. Then it puts it on a google map, and offers step by step directions!

#### July 22

The Senate will vote today on a controversial gun measure to allow people to carry concealed weapons across state lines. Supporters say truckers and others need to be able to protect themselves when they're away from home. But critics think it'll only spur more violent crimes. If passed, you can legally pack heat in other states as long as you obey that state's laws...except for Wisconsin and Illinois – which don't have concealed weapon laws.

Charges have been dropped against a prominent black Harvard professor who was arrested over the weekend for disorderly conduct. Cops showed up at Henry Louis Gates Jr.'s home after a witness

thought he was trying to break in. Turns out, Gates and his chauffeur were trying to pry his front door open after it was jammed shut. Gates and cops argued because he believed he was a victim of racial profiling, and cops arrested him on his front porch.

Hundreds of millions of Asians watched the sky turn to black this morning as the longest total solar eclipse of the century took place. The eclipse lasted 6 minutes and 39 seconds and stretched across parts of China, India, Bangladesh, Nepal, and other Asian countries. Despite warning from some astrologers about the end of the world – we're happy to report – Earth is still here.

#### July 23

More than two years after the deadly Virginia Tech shootings, the mental health records of the shooter, Seung-Hui Cho, have surfaced. Virginia's governor says they were found at the home of a former Virginia Tech counselor. Who left the school before the shootings happened. The governor says the records will be released to the public as soon as possible. Cho killed 32 people before taking his own life back in April of 2007.

California lawmakers are back on track to vote today on the state's budget agreement. This, after Republicans backed down on their threats to sink the vote. Members of the GOP were worried about spending cuts in prisons. But after being reassured that thousands of prisoners would not be released early, it's on like Donkey Kong! Cali is trying to close its historic \$26 billion budget deficit.

The investigation into the death of Michael Jackson continues this morning. Yesterday detectives in Houston searched the medical office of Dr. Conrad Murray – the Doc who was with him when he suffered cardiac arrest. They were looking for evidence that could result in manslaughter charges. Investigators grabbed a hard drive and 21 documents.

#### July 24

It looks like President Obama is going to have to wait a little while for his healthcare plan to pass through Congress. Senate leaders say they will not meet the President's August deadline when they go on recess. Despite the setback, Obama says his ultimate goal is to sign a final bill by the end of the year – something House speaker Nancy Pelosi says can be done.

Cambridge's top cop is standing by his men for following protocol when they arrested prominent black Harvard professor, Henry Louis Gates Jr. That's despite criticism from President Obama saying the cops acted stupidly in handling the situation. Gates was arrested for disorderly conduct after getting into an argument with cops when they responded to a call about a break in at his house. Gates believes he was a victim of racial profiling.

A major California lettuce grower has recalled about 22,000 cartons of its romaine lettuce in 29 states. Tanimura & Antle Fresh Foods, Inc. says a random test came out positive for salmonella in Wisconsin. So, it's voluntarily recalling single, whole heads of romaine lettuce with harvest dates from June 25 to July 2.

#### July 27

A new Lundberg survey shows gas prices have dipped 7 cents in past 2 weeks; that's despite a rise in crude oil prices. Normally that would push gas prices higher... But experts say refiners and gas station owners have been keeping costs low and just taking a loss. The demand for gas has dropped, thanks to the bad economy, and they need to keep prices low to attract customers.

Huge kudos this morning to our friends at Full Sail University! They just signed businessman, educator, speaker, oh, and Oprah's man, Stedman Graham, to serve as an Adjunct Professor to students at Full Sail University within the Behavioral Science core curriculum.

### July 28

As many as 85 Haitian migrants are missing this morning after a boat carrying about 200 people capsized in the Atlantic Ocean. Rescuers say they found 113 migrants stranded on a reef near the Turks & Caicos Islands. So far, only 2 bodies have been found and rescue crews are still searching for more victims.

The Feds have arrested seven people from North Carolina who they believe were part of a terrorist plot to wage an Islamic Holy War overseas. They arrested Daniel Boyd, his 2 sons, and 4 other men. Investigators say Boyd trained in terrorist camps in Pakistan and Afghanistan 20 years ago. The indictment against them does not say anything about an attack on US soil however. If convicted, they could face life in prison.

For just 2 dollars and 50 cents a pop, you'll soon be able to purchase fizzy milk! It's the newest idea from Coca Cola. But would you drink this?! Get this... it's skim milk, with sparkling water, flavored with fruit and sweetened with cane sugar. Sound tasty? It will come in four flavors: peach mango, berry, citrus and tropical colada.

### July 29

Petroleum Engineering tops the list of degrees with the highest starting salaries – at \$83,000! In fact, the National Association of Colleges and Employers says almost all degrees bringing in the most green involve math! Chemical, mining, and computer engineering ranked second, third, and fourth on the list. Computer Science takes the number five spot!

If you "fake and bake" beware! Tanning beds increase the risk of skin cancer by 75%. And the cancer sector of the World Health Organization has moved tanning bed use into the "highest" cancer risk category. The new classification makes tanning beds as deadly as arsenic, and mustard gas.

A new online auction features more than 450 items from your favorite rock and pop stars. Some of the items on the website, gottahaverockandroll.com, include love letters, and erotic phone messages between Madonna and ex-boyfriend Jim Albright, and memorabilia from Elvis, the Beatles and Eminem. Jimi Hendrix's first known contract from 1965 is expected to fetch more than \$200,000! The auction continues through August 5th.

### July 30

A 7-year old from Utah said he didn't want to go to Church...and he meant it! The solution? He slipped out of the house, and took his parents' car out for a spin. Cops caught the kid on "dash cam" after getting several calls about a young driver weaving in and out of lanes, and rolling past stop signs. When they asked him why he did it, he said he didn't want to go to Church because it was "too hot!" He won't be charged with a crime because he's too young!

If you drink fruit-juices, tea, and energy drinks you're at risk of losing all 32 teeth! New research shows that those drinks can strip your grill of enamel, the hard protective layer. To avoid this, drink the acidic beverage all at once, instead of sipping it all day! Also, use a straw and drink lots of water!

A new study out this morning shows the pricey organic food is no better than the ordinary stuff. British researchers say people were paying more for organic foods because they perceive it to be healthier. And it's paid off. Worldwide, people spent \$49 billion in 2007 on organic. But due to the recession, organic food sales have fallen.

### July 31

'The Washington Post' is reporting that e-mails have surfaced showing Karl Rove played a bigger part in the 2006 firings of nine federal prosecutors than originally thought. The news came as Rove was finishing up his second and final day of testimony before Congress about the firings. Earlier this month, Rove said he just played a "peripheral role" in the firings.

We've all been thinking it for at least a month, but now court documents are officially suggesting that Michael Jackson was a drug addict. Search warrants signed on Thursday were meant to uncover evidence at the Las Vegas home and office of Dr. Conrad Murray that would show "prescribing to an addict." In addition to that, search parties at Jackson's house have found bottles of prescription drugs that would add up to about \$100,000 a month.

You might want to head to Germany, fellas, where you can now get "all the sex you want" at brothels for just \$100. And, the "brothel buffet" doesn't just include sex, you also get all the food and drink you want between 10 am and 4 pm. Brothels which have been hit by the recession, and are hoping the "flat-rate sex" promotions will give them a boost.

### August 3

Judd Apatow's latest flick, "Funny People" reigned supreme at the box office this weekend. The comedy starring Adam Sandler and Seth Rogen brought in \$23.4 million. "Harry Potter" and "G-Force" came in second and third.

We have an update on a story we've been following all morning long. CNN is confirming that 26 people were hurt on a continental flight that was forced to make an emergency landing in Miami early this morning. And four of them are seriously hurt. Flight 128 was on its way to Houston from Rio De Janeiro when it was rocked by severe turbulence. As of right now, CNN says those hurt suffered from a variety of injuries, including bumps, bruises, neck pain and back pain.

And it's official: Iran's supreme leader has formally endorsed Mahmoud Ahmadinejad as President for a new four-year term. This comes as Iran tries to deal with its worst political unrest since the 1979 Islamic revolution. The 52-year old Ahmadinejad is set to be sworn in before Parliament on Wednesday.

### August 4

No middle class tax increases. White House press Secretary, Robert Gibbs, had to play cleanup yesterday, saying that the Obama administration still has no plans of raising taxes on the middle class. Over the weekend, two top financial guys, Timothy Geithner and Larry Summers said the wealthy might not be the only ones facing tax increases in order to pay for the country's economic recovery. Time will tell...

The number of kids hitting the emergency room because of gym class injuries has spiked 150 percent over the last decade! A new study to be released in the September edition of *Pediatrics* finds the increase includes both boys, and girls, across all age groups. About 20 percent were leg sprains, and one in seven were broken, or sprained arms. The most catastrophic sport, as it relates to injuries is cheerleading!

You may find it surprising that 27 million Americans are using anti-depressants. That's double the number from just a decade ago! Here's another shocking fact...spending on "direct-to-consumer antidepressant ads" increased from \$32 million to \$122 million dollars during the study. Researchers say doctors feel more comfortable prescribing antidepressants, and people are more comfortable asking for them.

### August 5

Four people are dead this morning and 10 others are hurt after a shooting at a gym near Pittsburgh. Cops say 48-year old, George Sodini, walked into an exercise class last night, turned off the lights, pulled out two guns and fired off 50 rounds. Three women were killed and Sodini shot and killed himself. The police superintendent says Sodini was apparently on a mission and "did what he set out to do."

Forty-thousand of California's 150,000 inmates may receive a "get out of jail free card" because of budget issues and overcrowding! The move is part of an order from a federal judge panel, which gave the state 45 days to prepare to cut overcrowding. However, the massive prisoner release could be stopped because state prison officials plan to appeal the order.

While funding for the Cash for Clunkers program is still up in the air, the results are "in." Hybrids and compact cars were the top sellers under the program. The top three: Ford Focus, Honda Civic, and the Toyota Corolla. In fact, American cars made about almost half of the CFC boost and Ohio and Michigan reaped the rewards. The Senate is likely to vote for additional funding for the program before week's end.

#### August 6

The White House will announce a new program today to overhaul the country's controversial immigration detention policy. Officials say the plan will give the Feds more direct control over the detention centers that have been criticized for poor medical care. About 400,000 immigrants are detained each year.

Eli Manning is swimming in the dough this morning thanks to his new 6 year, \$97 million contract from the New York Giants. That averages out to roughly \$15.3 million a year. Under the new deal, he is guaranteed \$35 million, keeping him with the Giants through 2015!

The American Psychological Association concluded Wednesday that there is little evidence that efforts to change a person's sexual orientation from gay or lesbian to heterosexual are effective. In addition, the 138-page report -- covering 87 peer-reviewed studies -- said that such efforts may cause harm. The group's governing Council of Representatives passed a resolution Wednesday urging mental health professionals not to recommend to their clients that they can change their sexual orientation through therapy or any other methods.

#### August 7

Orlando Magic forward, Rashard Lewis, has been suspended without pay for 10 games for "doping up." He tested positive for an elevated testosterone level. His suspension won't be cheap. He'll be docked \$1.6 million of his \$18 million salary for the 2009-2010 season.

A Chinese bride hopes to get into the record books by getting married in a wedding dress sporting a train more than 1.4 miles long. And you thought they did it big in Texas! It took more than 3 hours to roll out the gown, which features 9,999 silk red roses. The dress cost almost \$5,900 to make.

More and more people who knew the Pittsburgh man who opened fire in a gym, killing three women and himself, are speaking out about his demeanor. A woman who attended a self-help seminar with him says George Sodini was studious and quiet. The class was designed to help men pick the brains of women and find out what they like.

#### August 10

History was made Saturday when Judge Sonia Sotomayor was sworn in as a Supreme Court Justice. Sotomayor is the first Hispanic and the third woman to serve on the High Court.

It was a great weekend for GI Joe. "GI Joe: The Rise of Cobra" topped the box office over the weekend with \$56.2 million. "Julie and Julia" and "G-Force" rounded out the top three.

The search resumes this morning in the Hudson River for more bodies and wreckage from Saturday's mid-air collision between the sight-seeing chopper and small plane. Seven of the nine bodies have been found so far. But since neither aircraft had a black box, officials hope electronic navigation devices from them will help determine the cause of the crash.

#### August 11

We start with a story we have been following all morning...Another member of the Kennedy family has passed away. Eighty-eight year old, Eunice Kennedy Shriver, died around 2 o'clock this morning. Eunice is Maria's mother, and the late President's brother. She had suffered several strokes brought on by brain cancer and had been hospitalized for the last week. Eunice was best known for her charity work, including starting the Special Olympics.



E-bay is the new driving force behind GM's new strategy for selling cars. Potential buyers can browse hundreds of dealer's virtual showrooms, ask questions, negotiate prices, and arrange financing for a new set of wheels. If the test program goes well, GM may expand it to the rest of the country.

About 70% of American agree that it's beneficial for a woman to take her husband's last name when they marry. From the results, researchers say people thought women should change their names to establish a "marital" and "family" identity! While those who opposed it, said it's important for women to establish a "professional or "individual" identity.

#### August 12

Rescue crew in Taiwan are busy this morning trying to get to more than 700 people trapped in recent mudslides and flooding. The heavy rains were brought on by a typhoon, which is being blamed for the deaths of dozens of people and hundreds more missing.

The cops are still on the trail of anyone who sold prescription drugs to Michael Jackson. They searched a Las Vegas Pharmacy yesterday that sold Propofol to Jackson's doctor, Conrad Murray. Conrad is under the microscope for "reportedly" giving Jackson the drug within 24 hours of his death.

Thanks to General Motors' Chevy "Volt," gas is so last year! Chevy says its extended-range-electric car had delivered a fuel-economy rating of 230 miles per gallon! By those estimates, you could drive from Los Angeles to Las Vegas on one gallon of gas! Don't smile too fast, because the 230 miles are only for "city driving" and are not based on the same standards for gas-engine, or hybrid cars.

#### August 13

This may freak you out a little, but wearing a pair of flip flops could attract 18,100 varieties of bacteria to your feet! Scientists from New York University tested the flip flops of two reporters who wore them for just four days! One of the bacteria uncovered was the common Staph infection! Yikes!

The US is celebrating a big win today at the World Trade Organization. The WTO rules that China is violating international trade rules by restricting the import of American books, movies, and music! If the Chinese government does not appeal, it will help curtail piracy and allow America's creative minds to make some money in China.

Representatives from the Department of Defense and Homeland Security are headed to Standish, Michigan today to check out a prison that could be used to house some of the 229 suspects from Guantanamo Bay, which is scheduled to close January 1<sup>st</sup>. The Michigan prison is also scheduled to be closed, but would stay open if the Gitmo prisoners are sent there.

#### August 14

Michael Vick is back in the NFL. The Philadelphia Eagles will officially announce today that they have signed the quarterback, who recently spent 18 months in federal prison on dogfighting charges. Vick's contract is for \$1.6 million this season, with a second season option of \$5.2 million.

Good and bad news for you sleepy heads. The good: researchers may have identified a gene that makes it so you only need 6 hours of sleep to be on your A-game. The bad news: it's disappearing in humans, and is found in less than 3% of people. So basically, 97% of light sleepers are kidding themselves.

#### August 17

Tiger Woods could not hold the lead on Sunday, losing the PGA Championship to Y.E. Yang from South Korea by three shots. It was the first time Tiger has ever lost a major while holding the lead going into the final day.

The State Department has added 92 aid workers to step up civilian efforts in Afghanistan to rebuild the country. That's about 1/3 of what it wanted by this time of year. But Officials admit they're making progress. Critics say they need even more than the goal of 380 workers to help in the region.

What is going on with North Korea? The Communist country is playing nice this morning... Saying it will reopen its border with South Korea to revive tourism and make some money. But don't think the North is getting soft. It's still warning if the US and South Korean military drills infringe on their sovereignty, they will unleash a "merciless and prompt annihilating strike." Ouch.

#### August 18

Keep an eye on your credit report. A Miami man has been indicted for allegedly stealing 130 million credit card numbers. Cops say 28-year old, Albert Gonzalez stole info on the credit and debit cards from Heartland payment systems and 7-11. Two other people from Russia have also

A Georgia death row inmate has a possible second chance on life. The US Supreme Court ordered a federal judge hear new testimony in Troy Davis' case. He was convicted in 1991 of killing a Savannah cop. But since the trial, 7 of 9 key prosecution witnesses have recanted their testimony. No work yet on when the new testimony will be heard.

90% of US bills carry traces of cocaine – now that's some real "dirty" money! But fear not, scientists say it's not "not enough" to cause health risks. Money can be contaminated with cocaine during drug deals, or it a user snorts it with a bill! Of course most of the cocaine traces on US currency is still a result of this incident.

#### August 19

Good news out of Detroit this morning... General Motors is cashing in on the "clunkers" program. It's making more cars because peeps are buying 'em up! The number one car maker in the US said it will build 60,000 more cars than originally planned because of increased demand from dealers who are selling out due to "cash for clunkers." GM is also adding shifts, overtime and brining back more than 1,300 laid off workers.

At 39-years old, quarterback, Brett Favre, is coming "out of retirement" to play for the Minnesota Vikings. He signed a deal yesterday, but the terms of the contract are being kept under-wraps. We do know the 2-year contract is worth \$25 million! Favre had announced his retirement after playing last season with the "New York Jets" following 16 seasons with the Green Bay Packers.

Conservative political columnist, Robert Novak, has passed away from a brain tumor. He was most recently in the spotlight for his column in 2003 where he named CIA Operative, Valerie Plame. Novak also made a second career for himself as a commentator on CNN and Fox News. He was 78.

#### August 20

We are expecting an announcement any minute now on the release of the only person ever convicted in the Pan Am jet bombing over Scotland. Several reports say a plane is on it's way to transport Abdel Baset al-Megrahi from a Scottish jail back to Libya. He has terminal prostate cancer and is being considered for release on compassionate grounds. We'll keep you updated.

It's a big day for the future of Afghanistan. Voting starts this morning in the Presidential election. But early reports show a low turnout because of the threat of violence. It's especially scary in the Helmand Province where US and NATO troops are battling Taliban fighters. Incumbant President Hamid Karzi is expected to win, but it's possible former Foreign Minister, Abdullah Abdullah, could get enough votes to force a runoff.

The Obama team is expected to announce tomorrow how and when the popular cash for clunkers program will end. Dealerships have sold almost \$2 billion dollars in vehicles – and could run through the program's \$3 billion in funding by early next month. But a lot of dealers want to put the brakes on the program because the Feds are behind in shelling out the rebate money.

#### August 21

President Obama is packing his bags and taking a little vacation this afternoon. The President will take the first family to Camp David for the weekend, then spend all of next week at Martha's Vineyard in Massachusetts. But he's probably going to have a hard time relaxing...On his plate right now: two wars, worldwide recession, and healthcare reform.

Afghani President Hamid Karzai is claiming victory this morning in the Presidential election. Karzai says initial results show he has the majority of the votes. Meaning, no runoff election will be needed with his chief rival, Abdullah Abdullah. Voter turnout was only around 50%...and in some parts of the Taliban controlled Southern provinces, voter turnout was as low as 10%.

Officials are still waiting on someone to claim the \$259.9 million dollar winning powerball ticket. It was sold at a Murphy USA gas station in Columbia, South Carolina. The winner has 6 months to claim the prize. Now, after Uncle Sam gets his piece of the pie, the winner is still going to be ungodly, stinking, filthy rich.

#### August 24

On Sunday, the reality show contestant suspected of killing his wife, hanged himself in a hotel room in Canada. Cops believe Ryan Alexander Jenkins killed his model-wife, Jasmine Fiore, and stuffed her in a suitcase.

On Friday, Newsweek published details of a report detailing how CIA interrogators threatened an Al-Qaeda prisoner with a gun and an electric drill on two separate occasions. The prisoner is accused of plotting the 2000 attack on the USS Cole which killed 17 US sailors.

Friday, the Evangelical Lutheran Church voted to allow sexually active gays and lesbians in committed relationships to serve as clergy. But, the final decision on whether to hire gays and lesbians will be up to individual congregations.

#### August 25

To the latest on Michael Jackson's death. Word is, he died from OD'ing on Propofol, a powerful sedative. And his death could be ruled a homicide! Either way, it looks bad for Dr. Conrad Murray, the doctor who administered the sedative to him.

The crypt above Marilyn Monroe sold on E-Bay for \$4.6 million. The Westwood, California crypt currently holds the remains of Richard Poncher, who was buried face down so he could spend eternity face to face to Marilyn Monroe. Poncher's wife decided to exhume his remains and sell the crypt to pay off her Beverly Hills home.

Afghan officials are expected to publish some results today of the election. But it may not help the situation. Since the election, the country has been in limbo with both candidates claiming victory and fraud. Right now, current President Hamid Karzai has 68% of the vote. But his challenger, Abdullah Abdullah, says that's bunk.

#### August 26

While you were sleeping, "The Lion" of the Senate, Ted Kennedy, passed away. The youngest of the Kennedy siblings died late last night at the age of 77. He had been suffering from brain cancer for more than a year. His death comes just more than two weeks after his sister, Eunice Kennedy Shriver, passed away.

The last column to be removed from the site of the World Trade Center is now back in place. Crews took the column down in 2002 from Ground Zero. But, it's back as part of the "National September 11 Memorial and Museum." The column is too big, the museum will actually be built around it.

Snail mail is getting a money saving makeover. In order to stay afloat, the post office is offering \$15,000 buyouts for up to 30,000 employees. The move will hopefully save more than \$500 million for the nation's second largest employer which lost more than \$2 billion in the last quarter.

#### August 27

Funeral preparations are also underway this morning for former Hollywood producer and best-selling author, Dominick Dunne. He died yesterday after a long battle with bladder cancer. Dunne was best known for his high society crime essays in "Vanity Fair," his subjects included OJ Simpson, Michael Skakel, The Menendez Brothers, and Phil Spector. Dunne was 83.

Toyota is recalling about 95,700 Toyota and Scion vehicles sold in the US because ice could affect their braking systems. The recall involves 2009 and 2010 Toyota Corolla and Corolla Matrix, and 2008 and 2009 Scion XD vehicles, all equipped with 1.8 liter engines. Due to the iced braking system concern, most states affected by the recall are in the North and Southwest.

Now that Senator Kennedy has passed away.. the future of his seat lies in the balance. Massachusetts law requires a special election within 160 days. Several names have been tossed around like, Representatives Barney Frank, Mike Capuano, and Ed Markey, as well as Joe Kennedy; he's Ted's nephew and son of the late Robert F. Kennedy. Joe served as Representative from 1987 to 1999.

#### August 28

The man and his wife accused of kidnapping an 11-year old California girl 18 years ago will be charged today. Jaycee Dugard was kidnapped back in 1991. Phillip Garrido, a registered sex offender, admitted he snatched her and fathered two daughters with her. Cops say Jaycee lived with her daughters in a backyard shed behind Garrido's house.

More than 45,000 Toyota workers in Cali will start searching for their next job this morning. The automaker says it'll stop production at a California plant next March. Toyota shared the plant in Fremont with General Motors for 25 years. But when GM pulled out in June, it left Toyota with the entire bill. Officials say more than 35,000 supplier and other jobs could also be affected.

At least 2,000 people in Los Angeles county, California are out of their homes this morning. They were forced to leave as wildfires approach. About 400 firefighters and a handful of helicopters are battling the blaze, which has charred 75 acres so far.

#### August 31

On Saturday, the late Senator Edward Kennedy was laid to rest near his brothers at Arlington National Cemetery on Sunday, his gravesite was opened to the public.

DJ AM's body was found Friday in his New York City apartment. This comes just a year after surviving a plane crash that killed four others. Drugs are suspected in his death.

Phillip Garrido and his wife Nancy pleaded "not guilty" on Friday to 29 felony charges including kidnapping and raping Jaycee Dugard. Dugard was kidnapped 18 years ago when she was only 11 years old.

#### September 1

This morning cops in Antioch, California will be examining a bone fragment found to see if it's human or animal. They found it in a once vacant lot right next to Phillip Garrido's property, the man charged with kidnapping and raping Jaycee Dugard. They're also checking to see if Garrido is connected to three other girls missing since the late '80s, early '90s.

It's gonna cost \$4 billion for "Mickey Mouse" to get "Spidey" in his house! Disney, pending approval, is purchasing Marvel comics – shelling out 37 times Marvel's estimated earnings so far this year. Why?

Because they've hooked the little girls with princesses and fairytales, now they're going after the boys! Disney is hoping to get a boost from the upcoming Spiderman 4 and Iron Man 2 flicks.

Starting today, same sex couples in Vermont can say "I Do!" And some couples are already taking advantage of it. The law went into effect at midnight, so a handful of couples got married early this morning! Vermont is now one of 5 states allowing same-sex marriages. Massachusetts, Connecticut, New Hampshire, and Iowa are the others.

#### September 2

Traffic on a website that chronicles the crazy attire people wear when they shop at Wal-Mart increased 700% in a single day! A wild trip of fashion gurus started the site after a shopping trip in South Carolina where they had a close encounter of the "interesting kind" – spotting a girl who looked like a stripper walking her kid on a leash. The website started as a joke, but websites like "Funny or Die.com" have made them an internet sensation.

The Duggar family will be welcoming child number 19 to the family next Spring. Michelle Duggar said she couldn't figure out why she wasn't shedding pounds from her last pregnancy after joining Weight Watchers. That's when she went to the doctor and found out there's another bun in the oven.

President Obama will be accessing the situation in Afghanistan this morning. A military report from General Stanley McChrystal will be released today on the latest from the war-torn country. The White House is debating whether to send more troops to Afghanistan, even though public support for the war is falling.

#### September 3

This could be a major break in the global fight against swine flu because most experts thought it would take two shots to be fully protected from the virus. Chinese officials say they have not seen any negative side effects and the vaccine is safe and reliable. No word on it or when the US would get the single shot. Just when you thought space was a vast open beautiful place, space junk happens. Right now there is a big piece of space junk moving towards space shuttle Discovery which is docked at the International space station. NASA says it's from a European rocket launched back in '06. NASA will decide this morning if Discovery will need to fire its thrusters to get itself and the space station out of the way.

More than two months after his death and just days after his birthday, the King of Pop will be laid to rest tonight. A judge just ruled Michael Jackson's estate will have to foot the bill for the burial in what's being called an extraordinary price tag. He'll be laid to rest tonight at 7 Pacific time inside the massive great mausoleum at the Forest Lawn Memorial Park with only close family and friends. Gladys Knight is set to perform.

#### September 4

Cops in California are looking for the man who bit off another man's finger at a heated healthcare rally. About 100 people were demonstrating 'for' healthcare reform on a street corner in Ventura County Wednesday night when a man walked up to the crowd and started arguing with them. Things got so heated, he bit off the top joint of the man's pinky finger and doctors can't reattach it. The victim says he's okay because his Medicare insurance will cover it.

Some parents across the country are considering extending their kids' Labor Day holiday and keep them home next Tuesday. That's because of a classroom speech from President Obama set for Tuesday. Originally, Obama was going to tell the kids to "write letters to themselves about what they can do to help the President." But due to outrage from parents it's been changed to "write letters to themselves about how they can achieve their short-term and long-term educational goals."

Cops in California are asking this morning for any more possible victims of Phillip Garrido to come forward. They say at least one other girl has been raped by the man who kidnapped and held Jaycee Dugard 18 years ago. Cops say Garrido lured the girl into his car with drugs back in '72, then took her to

a hotel and raped her. The whole thing never went to trial though because she refused to testify. Garrido was convicted of kidnapping and raping a woman in 1976.

#### September 8

I know true love can knock you off your feet, but check this out! A hiker is recovering this morning after she lost her footing and fell onto a jagged rock just after saying "Yes" to her fiancé's proposal. The couple was hiking along the Potomac River this weekend when the man decided to pop the question. After saying "Yes," the woman lost her footing and fell. Helicopter came to the rescue and she's going to be OK.

For the first time in decades, there won't be a Kennedy holding a senate seat in Massachusetts. This as Democratic and Republican lawmakers gear up for a public hearing tomorrow allowing the Governor to name a temporary replacement for the late Ted Kennedy's seat. Former Rep Joseph Kennedy, the oldest son of Robert, says he won't run for the spot. He'll continue his non-profit work of providing heating oil to low income families.

You may need to eat a cookie, or two, after you digest your final number: 40. A man will be donating his 40<sup>th</sup> gallon of blood today in Woodbury, New York. Al Fischer has donated 319 pints of blood since 1951, averaging six donations a year. But believe it or not, Fischer comes in second in the blood drive race here in the US.

#### September 9

Cops in California now want state officials to examine the DNA from a bone fragment found earlier this month next to Phillip Garrido's home. They say it's "probably human." However, they say bones in that area are often remains of Native Americans. Phillip Garrido and his wife, Nancy, have pleaded not guilty to 29 felony charges of rape and kidnapping of Jaycee Dugard when she was 11 years old.

Your first number is dressed to the nines...9/9/09 to be precise. What are those numbers good for? Marketing, of course! For example, Tim Burton's new animated film, "Nine" comes out today. And one Florida county clerk is hoping it's a day for memorable nuptials, offering a \$99 one day special for couples getting hitched.

A new bill is headed to California Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger this morning and it's already causing some controversy. The proposal designates May 22<sup>nd</sup> as a day of significance in honor of Harvey Milk's birthday. Milk was the state's first openly gay elected official. And conservatives say the vague bill might allow gay pride parades at public schools. Schwarzenegger's office has received more than 1,000 calls about it yesterday. He vetoed a similar bill last year.

#### September 10

President Obama told congress to get its act together on healthcare insurance reform. The speech was interrupted several times because of applause and ovations – as well as from an outburst from representative Joe Wilson. The republican from South Carolina is apologizing profusely after yelling out "You lie!" during the speech. Criticism to his outburst was immediate and bi-partisan! Wilson called the White House to apologize, then issued a public apology!

Apple's "core" is back on the job! Big boss, Steve Jobs, returned after six months on medical leave from a liver transplant. He announced price cuts on most of the iPods as well as a video camera, FM radio and pedometer to the Nano.

An international fundraiser kicks off today called "Twestival." People tweet about their favorite charity and invite those following them to help out. More than 200 cities worldwide joined the first global Twestival in February. It raised more than \$250,000 for water projects in Uganda, Ethiopia, and India.

#### September 11

Democratic Congressional leaders say a bill will be signed before the end of the year on insurance reform. VP, Joe Biden, even went as far to predict a bill signed by Thanksgiving. However, Speaker of

the House, Nancy Pelosi, and Senate Majority leader, Harry Reid, both say the public option may not be included.

As US troops "hold down" the front lines in Afghanistan, there's word they may not be getting any "back up" anytime soon. That's the word from House speaker, Nancy Pelosi. She says sending more troops could be a tough sell for the President. President Obama will decide in the upcoming weeks whether to increase troop levels over there.

US troops stationed in Afghanistan ran 9.11 kilometers (or 5.5 miles) this morning in honor of those lost in the 9-11 attacks. Troops hope the run will help people remember the soldiers who have died since the attacks. Many of those involved say the attacks is the reason they signed up for the armed forces.

#### September 14

Cops in Connecticut haven't confirmed, but they're pretty sure the body they found in a building at Yale is that of a missing student. Annie Le has been missing since last week. They found the body yesterday inside a wall of a medical research building where she worked. Le was last seen on a security camera walking into the building Tuesday morning, but she was never seen leaving.

Cops are now investigating the death of outsited Governor Rod Blagojevich's former "Chief Fundraiser" as a suicide after finding various types of drugs in his car. Word is, Christopher Kelly told a cop before he died on Saturday he OD'd. Kelly was supposed to begin a 3-year prison sentence this week for tax fraud.

Kanye West is apologizing this morning for his MTV VMA outburst. West blogged an apology to Swift, her fans, and her mom early this morning. By the way, Beyonce made it up to Swift later in the show by calling her back on stage to finish her speech.

#### September 15

Cops in Connecticut are focusing on a lab tech in the murder of Annie Le. Cops ruled out the Yale student's fiancé and professor as suspects. They say her death was "not a random act" and the lab tech in question failed a lie detector test and had scratches on his chest.

And Hollywood is mourning the loss of one of the most recognizable actors of our time this morning. 57-year old, Patrick Swayze, died after suffering from pancreatic cancer for more than a year. His most notable films? *Dirty Dancing* and *Ghost*.

The FBI may release more information this morning about a possible terrorism plot in NYC. Agents raided three apartments yesterday morning – looking for info on a man believed to be linked to Al-Qaida. He was arrested and later released. Agents are being tight lipped and only saying the threat was real and urgent. A local TV station says agents were looking for explosives.

#### September 16

Cops are analyzing a Yale University employee's DNA this morning. They took 24 year old Raymond Clark into custody late last night. But, he's not "under arrest" for the murder of Annie Le. They're trying to determine if his DNA matches the evidence found at the crime scene. Le's body was found on Sunday – the day of her wedding.

Representative Joe Wilson's wrists are probably a little sore this morning after having them slapped yesterday by the House. The House of Representatives voted to formally disapprove of his behavior during the President's speech. Wilson says it's time to move on.

A California mom is holding out hope this morning that her daughter kidnapped 20 years ago may still be alive. Yesterday, cops searched Phillip Garrido's home looking for evidence that may connect him to Michaela Garecht and another missing girl. Garecht's mom says she's hopeful Michaela is still alive now that Jaycee Dugard has been found. Garrido and his wife, Nancy, are charged with 29 combined felony counts.

### September 17

Cops in California will be using search dogs and radar that can see underground as they look for more bones on Phillip Garrido's property. As of now, they don't know if the bones are human or animal... They sent them off to the lab for testing. They found the pieces on his property and on an adjacent property Garrido had access to. Garrido and his wife, Nancy, face 29 combined felony charges.

Health officials are debating whether people infected with the H1N1 virus should stay home longer than the CDC says you should. Right now, the CDC says those infected can go back to work 24 hours after their fever breaks. But two new separate studies say you could be contagious for days after that.

Cops in Connecticut are processing the info found in a second wave of search warrants for the lab tech who may be connected to the death of Yale student Annie Le. They also say Le was strangled to death. They have searched Raymond Clark's home and car and gathered his DNA. Le's body was found in the basement wall of a research building Sunday – the day she was supposed to be married.

### September 18

After 72 years "on the air," *Guiding Light* is signing off today. The light will go out forever for the longest running show in broadcast history. It debuted in 1937 on NBC Radio and transitioned to CBS TV in the '50s. Ongoing declines in ratings led to the cancellation. But don't worry, producers say that despite going off the air, the characters lives will still go on.

The department of Veterans Affairs is asking vets to watch out for credit card scams. Some scammers are posing as VA workers and calling vets, asking for their credit card info. They're saying it's because of changes in dispensing prescriptions. The VA says it hasn't made a change and wouldn't ask for that info over the phone.

Accused Yale murderer, Ray Clark, is sitting in a maximum security prison this morning awaiting trial for allegedly killing graduate student, Annie Le. Some friends and family say cops have the wrong man, describing him as a 'nice man, always.' Cops have collected more than 250 pieces of evidence including text messages between Le and Clark arranging to meet the day she was murdered.

### September 21

The bodies of a woman and her six kids were found inside their Florida home on Saturday. The cops believe the husband and father murdered his family then took off for Haiti.

Brett Favre set another record on Sunday just by stepping onto the field. When he made his 271<sup>st</sup> consecutive start in the NFL. His Vikings sent the hapless Lions to their 19<sup>th</sup> straight loss.

An Ohio judge has postponed a second execution for an inmate as he considers the pain the man endured during the first try was 'cruel and unusual punishment.' Executioners gave up after trying to find a vein for more than two hours on Romell Broom last week. A hearing for an injunction on the execution is scheduled for next Monday.

### September 22

Pentagon officials want their top dogs in Afghanistan to hold off this morning on asking for more troops until the Obama administration has a chance to fully review its strategy. Army General Stanley McCrystal's confidential assessment was leaked to the media yesterday in which he warned without additional troops, the mission will probably fail.

The Florida man wanted for questioning in the deaths of his wife and five kids is possibly in custody in Haiti this morning. Florida cops are working with the FBI and Haitian officials to confirm if a man in custody in Haiti is Mesac Damas. Investigators think he flew there last Friday, the day before they found the bodies.



Speculation is flying this morning as to if ex-Senator, John Edwards, will confirm if he's his mistress' baby daddy. His former staffer, Andrew Young, said Edwards asked him to lie about being the father of Rielle Hunter's baby. And Young did it, he says, because he believed in Edwards. Young never signed an affidavit about the paternity. But word is, he's speaking out now. After Edwards dropped him "like a hot potato."

#### September 23

Cops all over the country are keeping a closer eye on stadiums and hotels right now. The Feds say even though they think they've arrested an alleged terror plot ringleader, the plan could still be alive this morning. The FBI and Department of Homeland Security issued warning to law enforcement to also watch out for attacks on mass transit systems. But admit, they don't have a lot of details about an attack.

Big drama in a small New York town this morning after crews in Bedford must stop pitching a tent for Libyan leader, Moammar Gadhafi, on Donald Trump's property. No word on the connection to Trump yet. Gadhafi is in town for the UN General Assembly, but he's not getting the welcome mat because of how he welcomed home the Lockerbie bomber last month. A Bedford lawyer claims the tent violates zoning and land use laws.

The Beatles sold 2.5 million albums in the days after they re-released their re-mastered albums earlier this month. The huge re-released set a billboard record for most titles in the top 50 at one time...with 16!

#### September 24

A major development this morning in AIDS research. US and Thai researchers say they've developed an experimental vaccine to cut the risk of becoming infected with HIV by more than 30%. Scientists tested it on the thousands of volunteers in Thailand to see if it could combat HIV strains common in that country. Now they're testing it on strains common in the US. More than 1 million Americans have HIV.

After Obama's meeting at the UN, he and other world leaders will head to Pittsburgh for the G20 summit. The world economy tops the agenda with the buzz words being "balanced and sustainable." The President is expected to tell world leaders they can't stand by and wait for America to solve the world's problems alone. The summit lasts through tomorrow.

On October 12<sup>th</sup>, radio stations will be spinning a "new" Michael Jackson tune. 'This is It,' will include background vocals from the Jackson brothers, and will be part of a "double-disc album" that will be released two weeks later. The first disc will include some of Jacko's greatest hits...the second, "unreleased versions" of previous songs.

#### September 25

Breaking news this morning....President Obama is scheduled to speak at 8:30 this morning about Iran's admission to having a second Uranium enrichment plant. A spokesperson for the International atomic energy agency confirms that Iran admitted in a letter earlier this week that a new pilot fuel enrichment plant is under construction. But it says it's only capable of producing bomb-making materials "not" a nuclear reactor. Sources say U.S. and French intelligence officials have known about the facility for several months, prompting Iran's admission. President Obama is expected to demand the IAEA inspect the underground facility immediately.

A would-be terrorist is behind bars this morning after trying to blow up a Federal building in Springfield, Illinois. Cops say Michael Finton drove a vehicle he thought was filled with explosives and tried to set it off with a cell phone in front of the building. Undercover agents set up the whole thing. In an unrelated case, agents also arrested a Jordanian teenager in Texas who tried to blow up a Dallas skyscraper with a car bomb.

Health officials expect more than 6 million doses of the H1N1 vaccine will be available the first week in October. That's twice as much as they expected last week. And new this morning, most of them will be

in spray form. Another 40 million doses should be ready by mid-October. Those on the list to get vaccinated first: children, pregnant women and people with underlying conditions.

#### September 28

We're waiting for the White House to respond this morning to news of Iran shooting off another missile. Iranian State TV says the defiant country test fired one of the longest-range missiles in its arsenal this morning. Officials say tougher sanctions will be on the way. The Obama administration is considering cutting off money to the country's oil-and-gas industry and restrictions on more Iranian banks.

The government is starting an unique way to track the possible side effects of the swine flu vaccine. Health officials will follow your progress through e-mails, take home cards, and insurance databases. They want to detect actual side effects quickly to know if a health problem is from the vaccine or an unrelated coincidence. Vaccinations are set to start next week.

Oscar winning director Roman Polanski could be released on bail as long as he doesn't leave Switzerland. His Lawyers also announced this morning they will fight extradition. This as Polish and French officials are planning a joint appeal for his release and will ask secretary of state Hilary Clinton for clemency. Polanski is charged with having sex with a 13-year-old girl back in 1977.

#### September 29

President Obama and the First Lady are heading to Copenhagen this week to promote Chicago to host the 2016 Olympic summer games. The International Olympic committee will choose between Chi-town, Madrid, Rio de Janeiro, and Tokyo on Friday. Some questioned if Obama would go because he has a lot on his plate, like healthcare. And some Republicans are giving him flack, questioning his priorities.

New numbers show the recession hit middle and low income people the hardest, further widening the income gap. The Census Bureau says the wealthiest Americans who make more than \$138,000 a year, made 11 times more money than those living near or below the poverty line. Total household income fell for everybody. The poverty level also jumped to an 11 year high.

One of the four teens charged with beating a Chicago honor student to death confessed his role in the crime. A cell phone video caught it on tape. 17-year old, Eugene Bailey, told cops he jumped on the victim's head after he was down. A 19-year-old, 18, and 16-year-old are also charged with first degree murder. 16-year old Derrion Albert was an "innocent bystander" who was attacked as he walked home from school.

#### September 30

We want to update you on this 7.6 magnitude quake in Indonesia. There's now a tsunami warning for Indonesia, Malaysia, India and Thailand. There's no word on any being hurt. This comes hours after the big quake in Samoa caused a tsunami. No word yet on if any US citizens were killed. President Obama has cleared the way for the feds to send money to help. Phone service and power are out and crews will be looking for survivors today. As of now, 99 people are confirmed dead. The magnitude quake registered between 8.0 and 8.3 yesterday morning.

Ssenators supporting a 'public option' are vowing this morning they won't give up. This, after their colleagues rejected that part of the health care insurance plan. One of the heated debates was about if the public option would be run like Medicare. Some Democrats say many don't mind the government running Medicare. But, Republicans say many people don't want health care in Washington's hands.

As Congress debates healthcare, the Feds will release a report today showing state and Federal officials missed millions of dollars in Medicaid prescription drug abuse. An audit shows there were 65,000 cases of people on Medicaid who got potentially addictive drugs illegally. Adding up to \$65 million from 2006 to 2007. Most of the prescriptions were written for dead patients or by the people posing as doctors.